8. (*Amended*) Device according to Claim 7, wherein the focus signal is proportional to

$$(t_{a1} + t_{d1}) + (t_{a2} + t_{d2}) - (t_{b2} + t_{c2}) - (t_{b1} + t_{c1})$$

where t_e is a time difference between corresponding parts of detector signal e relating to passage of the radiation beam over one of the marks and a reference signal, e designating a detector signal label a1, a2, b1, b2, c1, c2, d1 or d2, the detector signals labelled '1' and '2' pertaining to detectors in the outer part and inner part, respectively of a quadrant, the detectors in four subsequent quadrants being labelled 'a', 'b', 'c' and 'd'.

12. (*New*)   The device according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of detectors includes detectors a and c arranged on a first, but not a second, side of a dividing line extending effectively in a direction parallel to the scan line, detector a being arranged adjacent the dividing line and detector c being arranged around detector a, detectors b and d arranged to be on the second, but not the first, side of the dividing line, detector b being arranged adjacent the dividing line and detector d being arranged around detector b, the time difference signal being proportional to

$$t_a - t_b - t_c + t_d,$$

each of t_a, t_b, t_c and t_d being a time difference between the detector signal of the respective detector and a corresponding clock signal.

13. (*New*)   The device according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of detectors includes detectors a and c arranged on a first, but not a second, side of a dividing line extending effectively in a direction parallel to the scan line, detector a being arranged adjacent the dividing line and detector c being arranged around detector a, detectors b and d arranged to be on the second, but not the first, side of the dividing line, detector b being arranged adjacent the dividing line and detector d being arranged around detector b, the time difference signal being proportional to

$$t_a - t_b + t_c - t_d,$$

each of t_a, t_b, t_c and t_d being a time difference between the detector signal of the respective detector and a corresponding clock signal.

14. (*New*)   The device according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of detectors includes detectors a and c arranged on a first, but not a second, side of a dividing line extending effectively in a direction parallel to the scan line, detector a being arranged adjacent the dividing line and detector c being arranged around detector a, detectors b and d arranged to be on the second, but not the first, side of the dividing line, detector b being arranged adjacent the dividing line and detector d being arranged around detector b, a second time difference signal being proportional to

$$t_a + t_b - t_c - t_d,$$

each of t_a, t_b, t_c and t_d being a time difference between the detector signal of a respective detector and a corresponding clock signal.

15. (*New*)   The device according to Claim 14, wherein detectors a and b are each semi-circularly shaped and bounded on one side by the dividing line.

16. (*New*)   The device according to Claim 1, wherein detectors are arranged to be in one of four quadrants, the quadrants arranged counterclockwise being a, b, c and d, each quadrant having a detector in an outer portion 1 and another detector in an inner portion 2, the time difference signal being proportional to

$$(t_{a1} + t_{d1}) - (t_{a2} + t_{d2}) + (t_{b2} + t_{c2}) - (t_{b1} + t_{c1}),$$

each of t_{a1}, t_{a2}, t_{b1}, t_{b2}, t_{c1}, t_{c2}, t_{d1} and t_{d2} being a time difference between the detector signal of a respective detector and a corresponding clock signal, the respective detector being arranged in the quadrant portion indicated by subscript.

17. (*New*)   The device according to Claim 1, wherein detectors are arranged to be in one of four quadrants, the quadrants arranged counterclockwise being a, b, c and d, each quadrant having a detector in an outer portion 1 and another detector in an inner portion 2, the time difference signal being proportional to

$$(t_{a1} + t_{d1}) - (t_{a2} + t_{d2}) - (t_{b2} + t_{c2}) + (t_{b1} + t_{c1}),$$

each of t_{a1}, t_{a2}, t_{b1}, t_{b2}, t_{c1}, t_{c2}, t_{d1} and t_{d2} being a time difference between the detector signal of a respective detector and a corresponding clock signal, the respective detector being arranged in the quadrant portion indicated by subscript.